

Preliminary Amendment of US National Stage for International
Application PCT/EP00/09185 filed September 20, 2000

Cont
A2
11. The process of claim 10, wherein the plasma jet
pretreated surface comprising thermoplastic rubber is
pretreated solely with the plasma jet.

12. The process of claim 6, wherein the plasma jet
pretreated surface comprises injection-molded, foamed
ethylene/vinyl acetate that has been roughened or swelled
mechanically or with a solvent before treatment with the
plasma jet.

REMARKS

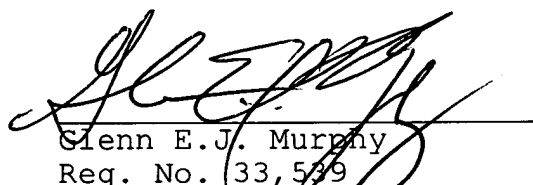
Applicants cancel claims 1-5 without prejudice, and
enter new claims 6-12. The subject matter of the new claims
is described the specification at page 3, line 25 to page 5,
line 19, as well as in the original claims. The
specification now includes a cross-reference to related
applications and headings appropriate to U.S. practice. No
new matter has been added.

The new claims better claim the full literal and
equivalent scope and breadth of subject matter disclosed in
the application, notwithstanding applicants' belief that the
original claims, drafted for examination in the German and
European Patent Offices, would have been allowable but for
minor matters of form permitted in German or European
practice but objected to in the U.S.P.T.O. The new claims
find support in the application independent of the original
claims and therefore are not believed to constitute
narrowing amendments to the original claims within the
holding of Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki
Co., No. 95-1066 (Fed. Cir. Nov. 29, 2000).

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Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment
and examination of the application. If any fees are due to
enter this paper that have not been accounted for, please
charge Deposit Account No. 01-1250.

Respectfully submitted,



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